पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (कैप्टन सतीश शर्मा): (क) अप्रैल, 1990 से 31 मार्च, 1994 की अवधि के दौरान 5 खुदरा बिक्री केन्द्र और 14 एल० पी० जी० डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरशिप बिहार में अनुकंपा आधार पर आबंटित की गई थीं। उपर्युक्त में एक खुदरा बिक्री केन्द्र और एक एल० पी० जी० डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरशिप पुनरीक्षा के बाद रद्द किये गये।

(ख) प्रत्येक मामले के सभी पहलुओं और परिस्थितियों को ध्यान में रखते हुए कुछेक पात्र मामलों में ही अनुकंपा आधार पर आबंटन किया जाता है।

Complaints lodged by Dealers of LPG in Uttar Pradesh

6787. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will tne Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG dealerships sanctioned in Uttar Pradesh during 1993;

(b) whether Government have received any complaints from the dealers about forcibly taking away cylinders from the godowns; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard and what action has been taken to book the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) 34 LPG distributorships were allotted in Uttar Pradesh during 1993-94.

(b) and (c) During the year 1993, 719 Indian cylinders were reportedly taken away by force from the LPG godowns of Indane distributors in Uttar Pradesh. In all the above cases, distributors have filed FIR with the police for necessary action.

Plans for expansion of Fertilizer Capacities

6788. SHRI MATNAG SINH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether acute shortage of natural gas seriously hit Government's plan for a major expansion of fertilizer capacities;

(b) if so, whether in view of this Government have been prompted to explore the possibilities of joint ventures with the countries having sizeable reserves of gas raw materials;

(c) whether two joint ventures are being explored with Qatar and Iran;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any agreement has recently been reached in this regard; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (f) The Government have initiated a number of short term and medium term measures to increase the production of natural gas which include the participation of private parties in exploration, and in the development of small and medium sized fields as also the import of gas from the Middle East which would increase the availability of gas for all the sectors including the fertilizer sector.

IOC's Plan to set up Refineries in Eastern Region

6789. SHRI MATANG SINH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation propose to set up two oil refineries in the eastern region;

(b) if so, the total proposed investment in these two refineries and the mode of mobilising the funds;

(c) whether any public issue is being proposed.

(d) whether any foreign agency is investing in these refineries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) Indian Oil Corporation has in principle approval to set up a 6 MMTPA joint venture refinery in the East Coast.

(b) and (c) As per initial estimates, IOC's refinery project is expected to cost around Rs. 3031 crores (June 1992 prices). IOC expects to mobilise the funds partly from internal resources and partly from external resources. The external resources will be through public deposits, medium term financing and foreign borrowings.

(d) and (e) Interest was shown by some foreign companies like M/s. Oman Oil Company, Bermuda, International Petroleum Investment Company, Abu Dhabi, Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, Kuwait, Petronas, Malaysia for participation as Joint Venture partner.

Gas Pipeline between India and Oman

6790. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pipeline is proposed to be laid between Oman and India;

(b) whether the project is in doldrums because of the high gas price quoted by Oman Oil Company;

(c) whether there is a proposal to form a joint venture by Oman Oil Company with Enron Corporation of US for this project; and

(d) what is the present stage of negotiations in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) A proposal for a gas pipeline from Oman to India has been received from the Oman Oil Company. The terms including price for supply of gas is being discussed.

(c) and (d) The Government is not aware of any such proposal.

NRIs and Multi-Nationals for Oil Drilling in India

6791. SHRI MATANG SINH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of NRIs and multi-national companies which have applied for permission for oil drilling in India;

(b) the details of the companies which have been granted permission during the last one year and the broad terms and conditions thereof; and

(c) by when these companies would start commercial production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) The number of NRIs and multinational companies which have submitted their bids in the various exploration/development rounds offered so far are given below:—

Round of bidding	Number of NRIs/ multinational companies which have submitted the bids
4th exploration round	21
5th exploration round	5
6th exploration round	9
1st offer of discovered fields	22
2nd offer of discovered fields	11

(b) Government has approved award of contracts to companies as per the following details:

Fourth Round of Exploration:

1. Consortium of Hindustan Oil Exploration Company (HOEC) and Mafatlal Industries, both of India.